

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. An electronic commerce method for sending and receiving an electronic document between two or more information processors connected via a network, said method comprising the steps of:

encrypting electronic document data, processing electronic document data, packaging the encrypted electronic document data and the processed electronic document data, and sending the package by an electronic-document sending processor; and

un-packaging received data into processed electronic document data and encrypted electronic document data, restoring the processed electronic document data, decrypting the encrypted electronic document data, and checking whether the restored electronic document data matches the decrypted electronic document data by an electronic-document receiving processor.

2. The electronic commerce method according to claim 1,

wherein template data common to at least two processors is provided,

wherein, when the electronic document data is processed, said electronic-document sending processor extracts difference information between the electronic document data and the template data and

wherein, when the processed electronic document data is restored, said electronic-document

receiving processor combines the template data and the difference information.

3. The electronic commerce method according to claim 2,

wherein, when the electronic document data is processed, the difference information is compressed and

wherein, when the processed electronic document data is restored, the compressed difference information is decompressed.

4. The electronic commerce method according to claim 1,

wherein, when the electronic document data is processed, said electronic-document sending processor compresses the electronic document data and

wherein, when the processed electronic document data is restored, said electronic-document receiving processor decompresses the compressed electronic document data.

5. The electronic commerce method according to claim 1,

wherein, when the electronic document data is encrypted, a message digest of the electronic document data is calculated and the message digest of the electronic document data is encrypted and

wherein, when whether the restored electronic document data matches the decrypted electronic document data is checked, a message digest of the restored electronic document data is calculated and whether the

calculated message digest matches the decrypted message digest is checked.

6. The electronic commerce method according to claim 5,

wherein template data common to at least two processors is provided,

wherein, when the electronic document data is processed, said electronic-document sending processor extracts difference information between the electronic document data and the template data and

wherein, when the processed electronic document data is restored, said electronic-document receiving processor combines the template data and the difference information.

7. The electronic commerce method according to claim 6,

wherein, when the electronic document data is processed, the difference information is compressed and

wherein, when the processed electronic document data is restored, the compressed difference information is decompressed.

8. The electronic commerce method according to claim 5,

wherein, when the electronic document data is processed, said electronic-document sending processor compresses the electronic document data and

wherein, when the processed electronic document data is restored, said electronic-document

receiving processor decompresses the compressed electronic document data.

9. An electronic commerce system for sending and receiving an electronic document between two or more information processors connected via a network,

wherein an electronic-document sending processor comprises means for encrypting electronic document data; means for processing electronic document data; means for packaging the encrypted electronic document data and the processed electronic document data; and means for sending the package; and

wherein an electronic-document receiving processor comprises means for un-packaging received data into processed electronic document data and encrypted electronic document data; means for restoring the processed electronic document data; means for decrypting the encrypted electronic document data; and means for checking whether the restored electronic document data matches the decrypted electronic document data.

10. The electronic commerce system according to claim 9,

wherein template data common to at least two processors is provided,

wherein said electronic-document sending processor further comprises means for extracting difference information between the electronic document data and the template data for use when the electronic

document data is processed, and

wherein said electronic-document receiving processor further comprises means for combining the template data and the difference information for use when the processed electronic document data is restored.